

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15 and 20 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus for effecting recording on a recording material using a recording head, said apparatus comprising:

a first part for effecting a recording operation;

a second part for effecting a recording operation;

a supporting member supporting said first part, said supporting member having ~~[[a]]~~ two bent portion portions for supporting said part and being locked with another portion of said supporting portion opposite end portions of said first part, and a cut and bent portion disposed between said two bent portions,

wherein one end of said second part is supported by one of said bent portions, and another end of said second part is supported by said cut and bent portion.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said supporting member has a cut and bent portion which supports said part, and a base portion of said cut and bent portion has a portion extending in a direction crossing with a direction in which said cut and bent portion extends.~~

3. (Original) An apparatus according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said recording head is an ink jet recording head for ejecting ink through an ink ejection outlet.
4. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said ink jet recording head is a head for ejecting ink using thermal energy generated by an electrothermal transducer.
5. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus for effecting recording on a recording material using recording means, said apparatus comprising:
- a reciprocable main-scanning mechanism for scanningly moving said recording means;
  - a sub-scanning mechanism for feeding the recording material in a direction crossing with the scanning direction of said recording means; and
  - a supporting member supporting a structural part ~~constituting~~ forming part of said main-scanning mechanism and said sub-scanning mechanism, said supporting member ~~being constituted by one~~ including an integral metal plate material and having a bent portion which is locked with another portion of said metal plate material,
- wherein the bent portion is provided at each of opposite ends portions of said supporting member to support opposite end portions of a guiding shaft of said main scanning mechanism, and said supporting member further includes a cut and bent portion

disposed between the opposite end portions of the guiding shaft, for supporting an end portion of a feeding roller of said sub-scanning mechanism.

Claim 6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein said bent portion and locked portion ~~constitutes~~ form a guiding rail portion of said main-scanning mechanism formed by bending an upper end portion of the metal plate material.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein said bent portion and said [looked] locked portion are a part of said supporting member opposed to a guiding rail portion of said main-scanning mechanism and interpose a feeding path for the recording sheet therebetween.

9. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said opposed portion is a bent surface, formed by bending a lower end portion of said metal plate material frontwardly or rearwardly, for being fixed on an outer casing base of said recording apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[6]]~~ 5, wherein ~~said supporting member further includes a bent and cut surface, provided by cutting and bending said metal plate material, for supporting an end portion of a feeding roller of said sub-~~

~~scanning mechanism, wherein~~ a base portion of said cut and bent portion is formed by deep drawing.

11. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said base portion has a portion extending in a direction crossing with said cut and bent portion.

12. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said supporting member has a bent surface for supporting an end of a feeding roller of said sub-scanning mechanism, and a bent surface for supporting a pinch roller of said sub-scanning mechanism and associated with urging of said pinch roller toward said feeding roller, and said bent surfaces are continuous.

13. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said recording means is an ink jet recording head for ejecting ink through an ink ejection outlet.

14. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said ink jet recording head is a head for ejecting ink using thermal energy generated by an electrothermal transducer.

15. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus for effecting recording on a recording material using recording means, said apparatus comprising:

a reciprocable main-scanning mechanism for scanningly moving said recording means;

a sub-scanning mechanism for feeding the recording material in a direction crossing with the scanning direction of said recording means;

a supporting member supporting parts of said main-scanning mechanism and said sub-scanning mechanism, said supporting member ~~being constituted by~~ formed of one an integral metal plate material and having two bent portions for supporting each end of said main-scanning mechanism and a cut and bent surface disposed between said bent portions ~~provided by cutting and bending said metal plate material~~, wherein a base portion of said cut and bent surface ~~are~~ is formed by deep drawing.

16. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said base portion has a portion extending in a direction crossing with a direction in which said cut and bent surface is extended.

17. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 15 or 16, wherein said cut and bent surface is a supporting surface for supporting an end of a feeding roller of said sub-scanning mechanism.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said recording means is an ink jet recording head for ejecting ink through an ink ejection outlet.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said ink jet recording head is a head for ejecting ink using thermal energy generated by an electrothermal transducer.

20. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus for effecting recording on a recording material using recording means, said apparatus comprising:

a reciprocable main-scanning mechanism for scanningly moving said recording means;

a sub-scanning mechanism for feeding the recording material in a direction crossing with the scanning direction of said recording means; and

a supporting member supporting parts of said main-scanning mechanism and said sub-scanning mechanism, said supporting member ~~being constituted by one~~ formed of an integral metal plate material and having a bent surface supporting an end of a feeding roller of said sub-scanning mechanism, ~~and a cut and bent surface supporting another end of said feeding roller, and a bent surface~~ for supporting a pinch roller of said sub-scanning mechanism and associated with urging of said pinch roller toward said feeding roller, and said bent surfaces are continuous.

21. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein said recording means is an ink jet recording head for ejecting ink through an ink ejection outlet.

22. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said ink jet recording head is a head for ejecting ink using thermal energy generated by an electrothermal transducer.